

Department of Stü. 2

Action

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Info

FROM: Buenos Aires

T0: Secretary of State

NO: 1152, October 22, 10 A. M.

NLACT.

ELITE EYES ONLY.

Although naturally prepared to take international news in the best first phase of Department Circular 100, the Argentine lack of confidence in the U.S. and the possibility of a violent movement and confusion. Foreign Minister's highest level of Foreign Office official, in our view, will be puzzled by reference to intelligence on possible disorders of "unprecedented violence" if this unreported or unconfirmed by Argentine side. Foreign Office official also likely be puzzled by our report of imminent dangers and request for strengthening security measures in face circumstance that group of U.S. Mayors being entertained here in public function and Billy Graham preaching in Luna Park, obviously unwarned by us (and we do not feel authorized by reference Department Circular telegram to warn them or other U.S. citizens directly or through Consulate here or in Cordobay). Indeed, if Ambassador McClintock does not return in time to act on reference Department Circular telegram Foreign Minister will be additionally puzzled.

I will try field his questions and place major emphasis on Washington as source of intelligence reports in expectation evidence will develop so rapidly that initial skepticism and puzzlement soon will be forgotten. Should be noted, however, that October 21 Buenos Aires HERALD carried front page AP dispatch containing Pentagon denial of buildup for Cuban invasion and October 22 paper headlined "White House Columbia

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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1. On 11 May, Caracas (11) and A. M. from Buenos Aires (11).

Washington over Cuba". In face of these reports (11C and 11D and MT NEWS Broadcast had similar story), Foreign Minister likely consider Washington "evidence" of upcoming Communist attack as confirmation U.S. invasion plans and as Washington indicating Communists will react to "aggression" as publicly they can then could. Thus, U.S. will appear even to its friends at that point as unnecessarily disingenuous and as "provoking" instead of Communist reaction.

Moreover, Foreign Minister or other high officials of Foreign Office officers bound unfavorably react to request for interview with President Guido. He will normally and naturally prefer await receipt more concrete persuasive details concerning threat to Argentine security and U.S. interests here before agreeing to alert his Chief. He will probably, however, do so but with nagging and resentment at our seeming lack of trust in him.

Accordingly, urge amendment of instructions Department Circular 100000 700 concerning initial contact with Foreign Minister.

1. Sanction reference to and emphasis on Washington evidence of aggressive nuclear buildup in Cuba. This would put emphasis on aggression on Cuban Reds where belongs and reduce efforts to compare U.S. intelligence reports on domestic scene with that of outside and minimize otherwise certain skepticism and puzzlement.

2. Sanction reference to likely imminent message from President Kennedy to President Guido as basis for anticipating need for appointment with latter. Alternatively, delete reference in conversation with Foreign Minister to anticipated need for appointment with President Guido until letter from President Kennedy has arrived here.

Instructions requested NLACT.

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